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	RANSMITTAL FORM	Filing Date First Named Inventor	09/554,984 05/23/2000 MAES 16/6 PRYOR, ALTON NAT
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amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Attorney Docket No.: 99.45US ER 378324011 US

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16/6 B

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Maes

Serial No.: 09/554,984

Filed: 05/23/2000

Group Art Unit: 1616

Examiner: Pryor, Alton Nathaniel

RESPONSE TO FOURTH NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION

The Assistant Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the office action, please enter the following remarks.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 15, 28-30 and 32, and 10 UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office Action rejected claims 15, 28-30 and 32 as being unpatentable over Simon et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,932,234) ("Simon"). Specifically, the Office Action states:

Simon teaches a composition for skin application comprising a number of actives. The actives include compounds such as Asiatic acid (protease inhibitor) and dihydroxyacetone (tanning agent) and vitamin D derivative (cell differentiation enhancer). See column 5 line 49 - column 6 line 38. Simon does not exemplify an invention comprising all three compounds. However, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art to make such an invention. One would have been motivated to do this since Simon suggests the combination.

Office Action, p. 2

In response, Applicants submit that the Examiner has failed to present a prima facie

case of obviousness because the specific combination of the Applicants' claims are not taught